

EAGLE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

MARCH 2006

WHAT'S NEW

NORTHBOUND EAGLE ROAD WIDENING PROJECT (I-84 TO FRANKLIN ROAD) BEGINS IN MARCH

A meeting to provide additional construction information will take place:

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2006
4 TO 7 P.M.

HAMPTON INN & SUITES
875 S. ALLEN ST., MERIDIAN (EAGLE ROAD AND I-84)

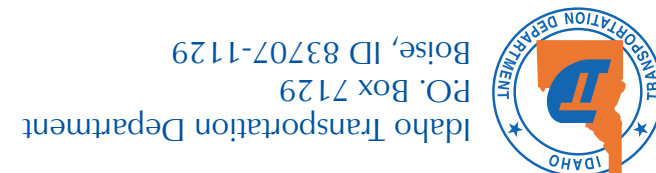
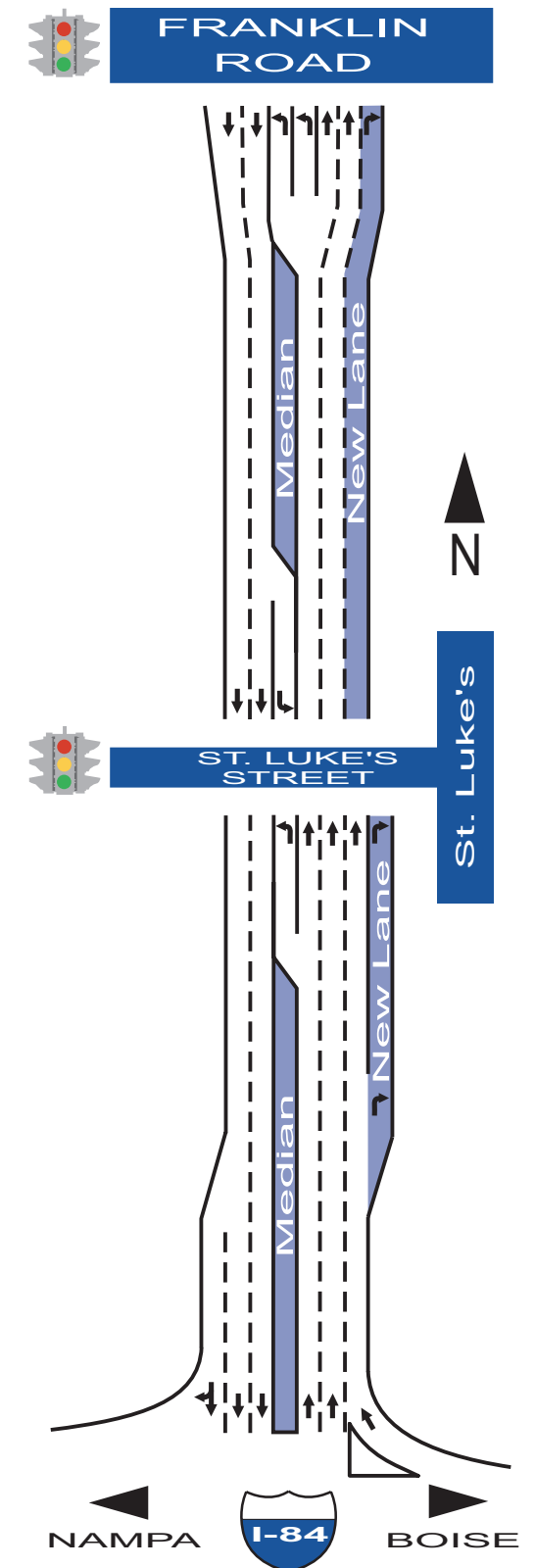
The northbound Eagle Road widening project will begin in March. This is the first major construction project of the Idaho Transportation Department's Eagle Road Improvement Project. The northbound Eagle Road widening project will:

- Widen Eagle Road to three lanes between I-84 and Franklin Road. The outside lane will be a right turn lane only onto eastbound Franklin Road.
- Construct a new dedicated right turn lane from Eagle Road to St. Luke's Street
- Improve safety and traffic flow by building a median barrier from I-84 to Franklin Road that will allow left turns only at signalized intersections
- Construct curb, gutter, sidewalk and storm sewer drainage on the east side of Eagle Road from I-84 to Franklin Road

For travelers' convenience, construction will take place primarily at night between 8 p.m. and 6 a.m. The project is scheduled to be complete in summer 2006.

For information about the northbound Eagle Road widening project:

- Visit the ITD Web site at: www.itd.idaho.gov and click on Eagle Road widening project - I-84 to Franklin
- Call ITD Public Affairs at 334-8003
- Send email to mollie.mccarty@itd.idaho.gov



EAGLE ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

ITD has completed the preliminary design of the Eagle Road Improvement Project.

Key elements include:

SAFETY

- Median barriers with periodic breaks
- Pedestrian/bicycle paths
- Increased lighting for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists

ROADWAY

- Safe, fully functioning major intersections
- Right turn lanes
- Curb and gutter

TECHNOLOGY

- Increased coordination among traffic signals using updated technology and signal systems
- New traffic signals at River Valley Street, Wainwright Road and Colchester Drive
- Curb and gutter

BEAUTIFICATION

- Landscaping along both sides of the road and in the median
- Decorative lighting



EAGLE ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

MARCH 2006

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

PROJECT UPDATE

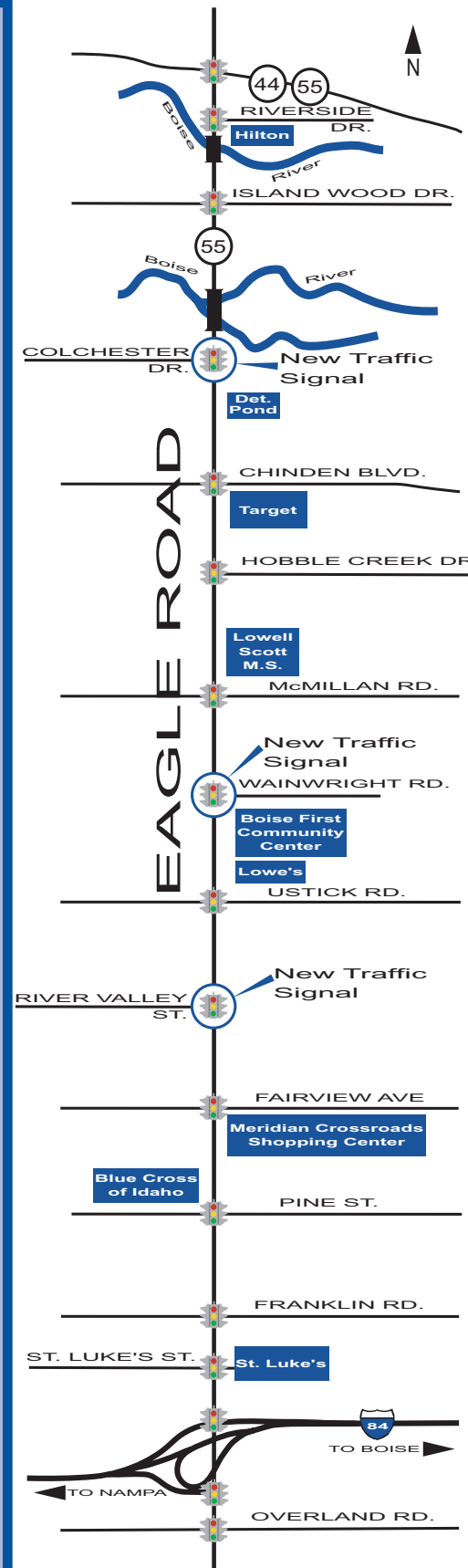
The Idaho Transportation Department (ITD) is continuing work on the Eagle Road Improvement Project.

Using input from public meetings in October 2003 and August 2004, and input from property owner meetings in July 2005, ITD has completed the preliminary design of the corridor from I-84 to Idaho 44 (State Street).

THE PROJECT NOW MOVES TO FINAL DESIGN...

Improvements will be constructed as funding for each becomes available. Here's an overview of what's already been built and what's scheduled:

- The first improvement – the new traffic signal at Hobble Creek Drive – was completed in summer 2005
- Construction on the first major project – northbound Eagle Road widening between I-84 and Franklin Road – begins in March (see page 1 for more information)
- Future improvements, including median barriers, enhanced traffic signal technology, and curb and gutter, will be scheduled for construction as funding becomes available



What is the purpose of the Eagle Road Improvement Project?

The purpose of this project is primarily to improve traffic flow, enhance vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and visually enhance the roadway corridor on Eagle Road from Interstate 84 to State Street (Idaho 44).

Why is ITD constructing raised medians along Eagle Road?

The planned improvements, including the raised median, will improve safety for motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists. Eagle Road is the busiest non-interstate roadway in the state and also has one of the highest accident rates. The raised median will reduce accidents related to vehicles turning left on and off Eagle Road. Reducing left turn movements will also improve traffic flow.

Has the median placement been determined? Will U-turns be allowed?

Yes. The median placement has been determined conceptually. Final design details are being determined now. U-turns will be allowed at most signalized intersections and at other selected median openings to enhance both traffic flow and safety. U-turns will accommodate passenger cars, pick-up trucks and some single-axle trucks.

What will be the new proposed speed for the road?

The proposed "design speed" for Eagle Road is 45 mph, which is the highest design speed allowed for an urban type roadway. The posted speed on any given section of Eagle Road may be different depending upon the actual traffic speeds after the improvements are completed.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

For information about the Eagle Road Improvement Project:

- Visit the ITD Web site at: www.itd.idaho.gov, click on Get Involved, click on Southwest Idaho, click on Idaho 55 Eagle Road Improvement Project
- Call ITD Public Affairs at 334-8003
- Send email to: mollie.mccarty@itd.idaho.gov

Has ITD considered a major widening of Eagle Road for the entire length of the corridor?

Yes. The corridor cannot function as a freeway, largely due to extensive development. A major widening of the highway would also require extensive impacts to business and residential developments and would be cost prohibitive.

How can additional traffic lights improve traffic flow?

One of the improvements under the Eagle Road Improvement Project is the Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS).

Additional traffic lights, appropriately spaced and coordinated, will allow this system to function more efficiently. Currently, the existing traffic signals on Eagle Road are not fully coordinated with each other. Ultimately, all traffic signals on Eagle Road will be coordinated, which will allow motorists to travel Eagle Road with fewer stops during normal traffic.

Additional traffic signals will be added only when needed.

Has ITD considered putting grade separations (overpasses, underpass and/or on-ramps) on Eagle Road to move traffic more quickly and efficiently?

Due to impacts to adjacent residential and commercial developments along Eagle Road and economic constraints, significant expansions such as interchanges or grade separations are not feasible.

Is there going to be a bike path or some type of user-friendly access along Eagle Road?

Bicycle/pedestrian pathways will be added on both sides of the roadway where compatible with adjacent developments.

